

PRICE BOOSTERS
FACE INDIGNMENTJustice Department Hourly Ex-
pecting Reports From
Grand Juries.INVESTIGATION IS ON
IN ALL PARTS OF U. S.New Method Suggested by Western
Attorney—No Report Received
by President.

With reports of the advancing price of sugar, officials there are now confident that within the next few days will come the announcement that federal grand juries have found indictments in several cities for the fixing of food prices on the tinny pretext that the war in Europe is responsible. However, the department officials profess to be without any definite information as to just what the grand juries working on the cost of living question have before them.

To Proceed Vigorously.

President Wilson has not yet received a complete report of the results of the investigation of the department of justice as to the rise in food prices since the European war began. He declared today, however, that the information so far in hand is sufficient to indicate that combinations have been made to raise prices without good reason, and that the government is expected to proceed against these combinations. The administration professes to believe the cases vigorously against those believed to be guilty of putting up food prices.

To Use Fraud Laws.

A new method of proceeding against the price boosters was suggested to the department of justice today by a United States attorney in the west. He informed the department that he had received information from a grand jury in that section which indicted certain wholesale houses under section 215 of the penal code, alleging that they have devised a scheme to defraud the public by pretending that there is a scarcity of sugar, flour, etc., and therefore attempting to control prices of those commodities. From Illinois come the following deductions as to the reasons for high prices: A United States attorney there says that he is "satisfied that the advanced prices are due to the manipulation of the monopolistic industries which, through their interlocking and intercommunicating methods of corporate organization, have been able to control the market and are levying unreasonable high profits and getting unwarranted profits." He asks for the assignment of a few special agents to assist him in further investigation.

Advice From Sherman.

That housekeepers organized into "community leagues" for the purpose of acquiring commodities at wholesale prices should not attempt to buy meats, other than fish, by this method, was the advice offered today by John H. Sherman, district superintendent of the eighth, ninth and tenth streets, at the fourth of the consumers' meetings to be held at the district building in the city, for the purpose of reducing the high cost of living.

Mr. Sherman pointed out the difficulty that would be encountered by housewives in cutting up a wholesale meat order so that the members would receive the same amount of meat. He advised the clubs to confine their purchases to fish and other marine products and such articles as are placed on sale by farmers at the Haskell produce market, between 10th and 12th streets, B and C streets northwest.

Consumers Ask Questions.

Today's meeting, which was held in Supt. Sherman's office, developed into a conference, in which practically every consumer present participated. Many questions were asked as to the best method of organizing leagues and buying and distributing products.

CRITICIZES MARKET SYSTEM.

Capt. W. E. P. French, U. S. A., Says
Local Conditions Need Reforming.

"There is something vitally wrong with the marketing system of Washington when one-pound chickens of the same quality, and which all 'eat' just alike sell for 25, 30, 35 and 40 cents, depending upon the location of the retailer," declared Capt. W. E. P. French, U. S. A., retired, at a meeting last evening at socialist headquarters, 311 F street northwest.

Capt. French presented the army commissary as a model social machine for building down the price of food products.

He criticized the existing system, advocated by Superintendent Sherman of the district department of weights, measures and markets, and said he could see "the absurdity" of the present system, which took to "shop around and tote her market basket home in this delightful August temperature."

Capt. French was skeptical as to the advisability of using public funds to create a municipal market for the benefit of the middlemen, and then relying, according to the plan of Superintendent Sherman, on the good nature of the dealer to pass the resulting economies along to the consumer.

That progressive municipalities were taking over the marketing machinery necessary to distribute the necessities of life to the people, and was confident that the "reactionary scheme" outlined by Superintendent Sherman would receive but slight approval from the citizens of the district.

EXPECT FOREIGN DELEGATES.

Experts From Warring Nations to
Attend High Cost Conference.

Financial experts from the countries now at war are to be sent to the conference on the high cost of living and its remedies which is to be held in San Francisco next April under the auspices of the International Thrift Society, in connection with the Panama Pacific exposition.

European nations who are depending on national and individual thrift to recuperate from the effects of the present appallingly expensive conflict.

Small Sugar Beet Crop Likely.

With the price of sugar higher than in many years, indications are that the country's sugar beet crop this year will be the smallest since 1910. A forecast of 4,300,000 tons was announced today by the Department of Agriculture. Last year the production was 5,600,000 tons. In 1912, 5,224,000 tons, and in 1911, 5,062,000 tons.

EXPLAINS PLANS
OF RED CROSS TRIP

Miss Boardman Meets With
Local Committee to Arrange
Subscription Work.

SHIP WITH NURSES
TO OFFER SERVICES

Hamburg-American Line Offers the
Prinz Joachim at Cost of Opera-
tion, \$1,100 a Day.

The Star will receive, acknowledge and transmit to the American Red Cross contributions from the public toward the work of the organization in connection with the war abroad.

Pointing out that 10 cents will buy a sufficient quantity of ether to make possible a painless operation on a wounded soldier, Miss Mabel T. Boardman, chairman of the national board of the American Red Cross, today issued an appeal to all Washingtonians to contribute to the fund being raised for carrying on the work of the Red Cross in the European war zone.

Miss Boardman this morning assisted in the organization of a local committee which will canvass the city for contributions. She expects to leave tomorrow for New York to make arrangements for the chartering of a ship which will carry Red Cross nurses and surgeons to the scene of conflict across the Atlantic.

Gen. George W. Davis, chairman of the central committee of the national association, and Bernard N. Baker of Baltimore will accompany Miss Boardman to New York. It is hoped that a ship can be procured and made ready for sailing by the end of the month. One hundred and twenty nurses and thirty surgeons will be carried on the first voyage.

Local Committee Meets.

Today's meeting of the local committee, consisting of representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade and Retail Merchants' Association, was held in the office of District Commissioner Newman. Permanent officers elected include Commissioner Newman, chairman; W. F. Gude, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Ross P. Anderson, president of the Retail Merchants' Association; and James F. Oyster, representing the Board of Trade, vice president.

Red Cross Plans.

Explaining the plans of the American Red Cross to dispatch a relief boat to the area of hostilities, Miss Boardman, who addressed the committee, stated that the ship will sail under the Red Cross flag, and will be under the protection of the treaties of Geneva and The Hague.

It is planned to divide the force of 120 nurses and thirty surgeons into units of ten nurses and three surgeons each. They will be sent to war zones where their services are most needed, the purpose of the association being to maintain strict neutrality.

Cash Only Is Wanted.

Miss Boardman explained that only donations of money are desired at this time, but that if the ship makes a return trip, clothing and relief donations of various kinds may be carried to the sufferers.

A contribution of \$1,500 from Mary L. Soule was today received for the Red Cross work at the office of The Star, and another of \$1,000 from T. H. L.

Asks \$1,100 a Day.

NEW YORK, August 24.—The Hamburg-American line, in reply to a query from Miss Mabel Boardman, chairman of the American Red Cross, announced today that it was willing to put its liner Prinz Joachim at the disposal of the Red Cross for the actual cost of operation. This line estimates at \$1,100 a day. In addition the owners stipulate that the cost of the ship and crew must be guaranteed and the United States government must insure her against all risks.

It is proposed to have the Prinz Joachim visit the harbors of the warring nations, giving aid wherever possible. The line limits the trip to sixty days.

NEW SOURCE OF RADIUM.

Deposits in Pennsylvania, But May
Not Be Workable.

With the prominence given to the subject of radium, and its use in the treatment of cancer, a brief report by Edgar T. Wherry, describing a deposit of carnotite near Mauch Chunk, Pa., published as bulletin 350-II of the United States geological survey. Carnotite is one of the radium-bearing minerals, and its deposit is believed to have been formed by precipitation from the ground water and can now be seen in process of formation where water trickles out through cracks in the rock.

The deposit is of significant interest, but the present knowledge regarding it is insufficient to warrant any statement as to its workability. So far as is now known the total area covered by the carnotite-bearing lenses is very small. The observed outcrops being confined to a strip but a few hundred feet in extent.

How the War Affects Us.

I.—The World's Markets
Upset.

By Frederic J. Haskins.

It is the biggest event in history. Half of the people of the earth are directly involved in a struggle wherein brute force is only made more brutal by the added engines of destruction evolved by a proud civilization. When Alexander marched, only those in his path suffered; Caesar destroyed only those who came under his spear, and even Napoleon, when his step shook the earth, but lightly stirred the millions who were not in Europe.

In the ninety-nine years since Waterloo mankind has been knit into one family, and when the bolt was shot in continental Europe the blighting breath of war withered the hopes of men in Asia and Africa, in America and Australasia, as well as in Europe.

In the ninety-nine years since Waterloo the farmer who grew food for himself, his family and his neighbor, the cobbler, has learned how to grow food for the aliens of the antipodes, and his neighbor, the transporter of goods, has learned the independence of the handicrafts into the dependence of an international industrial system based on the factory and rapid communication.

It is the biggest event in history, and there is no yardstick by which it may be measured. What the future holds time alone can reveal.

But for us Americans it is important that we learn quickly what the special injury and even turn misfortune into fortune.

Americans are the best business men on earth, but they have looked too much at the surface of things.

Business Men.

They have failed to take their rightful share of the wide world's trade. Now is the time to correct this fault.

The very first effect of the war was to destroy any investment market wherein were bought and sold the securities which represent the value, present and prospective, of the world's great industrial and transportation organizations. Stock exchanges were closed, and so great is the catastrophe, so great is the upsetting of all normal standards, that their doors are closed for a long time.

Followed in swift succession the terror of the seas that crippled the world's trade, the suspension of credit, the moratorium to provide the postponement of the payment of debts. Only gold settles an international balance, and gold is scarce as a commodity.

Within a day we began to learn what it meant. For instance, the dyestuffs needed for our cotton mills is mostly made in Germany. Our supply of dyestuffs is threatened. Our mills would have to close down for lack of dyes. We heard that many tennis courts in England and that a famine in them was impending.

We learned that a certain chemical used in making motor oil was all produced abroad and there were only six weeks' supply in the country. We learned that we would have to do without our supply of the winter season and that our supply of Riquet cheese would not last two months.

All these things, big and little, were more or less of a shock to some of us. But other things we learned were important. We learned that the South American had turned toward us in the hope of being able to buy here the hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of manufactures, and that she has been buying from Europe; we learned that the oriental trade was looking toward America for supplies; we learned that the demand for the millions of dollars' worth of wares we import ourselves had not lessened.

So here is the opportunity: We must make more than we ever made before, because other nations are destroying and consuming; the United States alone is still producing. We must produce more to meet our own needs, for our imports have practically ceased. We must produce more for foreign wants, to make American exports take the place of European exports.

The world's market place has been swept over by fire, and it must be rebuilt.

Other

World's Market Place nations are still struggling in the flames; it is for America now to build anew.

A great man in the administration at Washington, who is devoting every moment of this time to the upbuilding of American business, holds the theory that it lies with our own people to say whether or not this war will work lasting injury to us. His theory is based on common sense and a knowledge of world history, both wide and deep. According to his theory, there are three stages of the effect of the great war on the American people.

The first is, or when we could

be so big and so terrible that we could

suffer.

The second is, or when we could

suffer.

The third is, or when we could

suffer.

The fourth is, or when we could

suffer.

The fifth is, or when we could

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The sixth is, or when we could

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The seventh is, or when we could

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The eighth is, or when we could

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The ninth is, or when we could

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The tenth is, or when we could

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The eleventh is, or when we could

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The twelfth is, or when we could

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The thirteenth is, or when we could

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The fourteenth is, or when we could

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The fifteenth is, or when we could

suffer.

The sixteenth is, or when we could

suffer.

The seventeenth is, or when we could

suffer.

The eighteenth is, or when we could

suffer.

The nineteenth is, or when we could

suffer.

The twentieth is, or when we could

suffer.